IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 1-8.

9.   (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 6, further including:~~ In a communication device, a method for reducing latency in a group communication network, the method comprising:

        receiving a request from a user of the communication device wishing to initiate a group call;

        receiving media from the user before processing the request; ~~and~~

        buffering the received media for later transmission to a controller; and

        signaling the user to stop sending media if a memory unit used for buffering the received media runs out of space before the request is completely processed and media communication is not established between the communication device and the controller.

10.   (Currently amended) The method of claim [[6]]9, further including:

        transmitting the buffered media to a target receiver if a memory unit used for buffering the received media runs out of space before the request is processed but media communication is established between the communication device and the controller.

Please cancel claims 11-24.

25.   (Currently amended) ~~The communication device of claim 22,~~ A communication device for reducing latency in a group communication network, the communication device comprising:

        a receiver to receive a request from a user who wishes to initiate a group call;

        a memory unit to buffer media that is received from the user before the request is processed;

        a transmitter for transmitting the buffered data to a controller after the request is processed; and

a processor for processing the received request and the media, the processor being communicatively coupled with the receiver, the memory unit, and the transmitter wherein the processor signals the user to stop sending media if a memory unit used for buffering the received media runs out of space before the request is completely processed and media communication is not established between the communication device and the controller.

26.   (Currently amended) The communication device of claim [[22]]25, wherein the transmitter transmits the buffered media to a target receiver if a memory unit used for buffering the received media runs out of space before the request is processed but media communication is established between the communication device and the controller.